Remarks

Claim 4 has been amended to depend from only a single preceding claim, in order to reduce the filing fee, as a result of which new claims 6-9 have been added to the application. These new claims are the same as claims 4 and 5 except for their dependency.

Respectfully submitted,

Masahiro ISHIKAWA et al.

y.

Registration No. 25,134 Attorney for Applicants

MRD/pth Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 January 19, 2005